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REMARKS

The Office Action of 11/02/2006 has been carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 5 and 6 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter, which indication is appreciatively acknowledged.

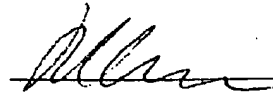
Claims 1, 11 and 23 were rejected as being anticipated by Chang. Claims 2-10, 12-22, 24 and 25 were rejected as being unpatentable over Chang in view of Roberts. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The present invention, as recited in representative claim 1, relate to a method of reducing power consumption in a state-retaining circuit. During normal operation, both a regular power supply and a standby power supply are supplied to the state retaining circuit. During transition from an active condition to a standby condition, the regular power supply is deliberately turned off, i.e., coupled to ground, the standby power supply supplying sufficient power to retain the state of the circuit. When the active mode is resumed, the regular power supply is turned back on.

Chang does not teach or suggest such a combination of features. In particular, Chang does not teach or suggest *decreasing* the regular power supply to ground level as claimed. Rather, Chang teaches *detecting a decrease* in the regular power supply (possibly to ground level). In practical terms, although Chang teaches a power failure recovery mechanism, Chang does not teach or suggest a power conservation mechanism that can be applied during the course of routine operation in the absence of any power failure.

Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-25 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. Ure', is written over a horizontal line.

Michael J. Ure, Reg. 33,089

Dated: 02/02/2006